

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-10 ACDA-05 /089 W

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R 241015Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4878

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LA, TH, KS

SUBJ: LAO RELATIONS WITH KOREA AND THAILAND

REF: A) BANGKOK 14954 (NOTAL)

B) VIENTIANE 4818 (NOTAL)

1. AFP DISPATCH CARRIED BY FBIS AND CITED REF A IS NOT ENTIRELY ACCURATE AND LESS THAN COMPLETE.

2. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS, A DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE MILITARY "21 ORGANIZATIONS" CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA JULY 22. DELEGATION SPOKESMAN SENEKHAM VONGVORARATH LATER TOLD PRESS THAT DELEGATION HAD ASKED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION TO: A) SUPPORT FIVE POINTS PUT FORWARD BY PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK) TO ACHIEVE KOREAN INDEPENDENCE AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION; B) "URGENTLY" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH "REACTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF PARK

CHUNG HEE;"AND C) TAKE "A POSITION AND APPROPRIATE MEASURES" TOWARD THAI GOVERNMENT (RTG) SO THAT IT WILL END "UNCONDITIONALLY" ITS "TWO-FACED" POLICY TOWARD LAOS.

3. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT "21 ORGANIZATIONS" FORMALLY PROPOSED OR REQUESTED THAT PGNU BREAK RELATIONS WITH THAILAND. ACCORDING TO ANOTHER VERNACULAR PAPER. HOWEVER, SENEKHAM SAID POINT (C) ABOVE WAS INCLUDED BECAUSE RTG "CONTINUES TO AID LAO REACTIONARIES WHO HAVE TAKEN REFUGE" IN THAILAND.

4. STILL, ACCORDING TO SENEKHAM, SOUVANNA APPEARS TO HAVE EXONERATED RTG. HE REPORTEDLY TOLD DELEGATION THAT ANY AID TO LAO RIGHTISTS NOW IN REFUGE IN THAILAND WOULD COME FROM "A GROUP OF THAI MILITARY REACTIONARIES" AND NOT FROM RTG, WHICH HAS JUST RECOGNIZED REGIME IN PEKING.

5. FOR ROK, HOWEVER, PROSPECTS ARE NOT GOOD. SOUVANNA REPORTEDLY TOLD DELEGATION THAT QUESTION OF BREAK IN PGNU-ROK RELATIONS WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THIS WEEK'S CABINET MEETING (THURSDAY INSTEAD OF CUSTOMARY WEDNESDAY SINCE JULY 23 WAS BUDDHIST HOLIDAY). HE CRITICIZED ROK FOR OVERLOOKING "THE RULE OF DIPLOMATIC COURTESY? IN NOT ADVISING PGNU OF DEPARTURE OF ITS ACCREDITED DIPLOMATS. (COMMENT: E UNDERSTOOD THAT THE TWO OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH KOREAN MISSION -- ALTHOUGH THEY LEFT VIENTIANE ABRUPTLY IN MID-MAY -- DID INFORM FOREIGN MINISTRY IN ADVANCE OF IMPENDING TEMPORARY DEPARTURE "ON CONSULTATIONS.")

6. COMMENT PGNU APPEARS ON VERGE OF DECISION ON CONTINUED RELATIONS WITH ROK. EMBOFF SAW NORTH KOREAN CHARGE AT FOREIGN MINISTRY MORNING JULY 24; WE SPECULATE HE WAS THERE TO REINFORCE ARGUMENT THAT PGNU SHOULD BREAK WITH ROK.

7. AS POINTED OUT REF B, WE BELIEVE ROK AMBASSADOR IN BANGKOK (ACCREDITED TO LAOS) SHOULD ATTEMPT VISIT TO VIENTIANE SOONEST IF HE IS GOING TO TRY AT ALL;
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OTHERWISE, HE MAY FIND DOOR CLOSED FOR GOOD.
CHAPMAN

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NNN

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